

## Amusements Co-Night.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—"I Puritani."  
AMERICAN THEATRE.—Reading.  
ASSOCIATION HALL.—Minstrels.  
BILLY BIRCH'S OPERA HOUSE.—  
CARNegie.—"The Beggar Student."  
DAILY THEATRE.—"Dollars and Sense."  
FOURTH REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Concert  
and singing.  
GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—"One of the Finest."  
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE.—"The Student."  
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE.—"Allegretto."  
NILES' GARDEN.—"The Strangers of Paris."  
NEW PARK THEATRE.—"The Student."  
PARK THEATRE.—"The Student."  
STANDARD THEATRE.—"The Student."  
THEATRE COMIQUE.—"The Student."  
UNION SQUARE THEATRE.—"The Student."  
WALLACK'S THEATRE.—"The Student."  
50 AVENUE THEATRE.—"The Student."  
5TH AVENUE THEATRE.—"The Student."  
14TH STREET THEATRE.—"The Student."  
23D STREET THEATRE.—"The Student."

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## Business Notices.

"ALDERNEY BRAND" CONDENSED MILK.  
Borden's.

## TERMS TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.

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1 Year. 6 Months. 3 Months.  
DAILY, with Sunday. \$5.00 \$4.00 \$3.00  
DAILY, without Sunday. 4.00 3.00 2.00  
SUNDAY TRIBUNE. 1.00  
By Post Office Note, Money Order, or Registered Letter.  
By Postal Note, the remitter will please write on the Note,  
"For the New-York Tribune."

BRANCH OFFICES OF THE TRIBUNE.  
Advertisements for publication in THE TRIBUNE, and orders  
for regular delivery of the daily paper, will be received at the  
following branch offices in New-York and elsewhere:  
200 West Twenty-third St., N. Y. C. 10 to 5 p. m.  
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## New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, NOV. 30.

## THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Emperor William has sent a message to King Alfonso thanking him for the reception of the Crown Prince in Spain. It was decided in the Chamber of Deputies to discuss in two weeks the decree relative to American pork. Well and his accomplices were arraigned in London. M. Leon Say was elected President of the Left Centre of the French Senate. Minister Sargent gave a banquet in Berlin in honor of Thanksgiving Day. Vignaux led Schaefer by nearly 500 points in the billiard match in Paris.

DOMESTIC.—The friends of Mr. Carlisle were more than ever confident yesterday of electing him Speaker; the call for a Democratic caucus was issued. B. F. Dow & Co., Penn. Ind., made an assignment yesterday. Dr. G. W. Bazley, of Richmond, Va., is dead. A hand-car was run into by a train near Bethesda, Ohio, and two men were killed. The remarkable red light seen near the sun at sunset recently is suspected to reveal the presence of a comet. "Harry" Costello and his mother were thrown from a wagon and killed at Pittsburgh, Penn., on Wednesday night. A fire in Ocala, Fla., yesterday, destroyed property worth \$200,000. The Rev. W. H. Cudworth, of the Unitarian Church of "Our Father," died in the pulpit of a Congregational church in East Boston yesterday. The Naval Cadets took part in athletic games. There were two incendiary fires in Milwaukee on Wednesday night.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—The Windsor Theatre was destroyed by fire last night. The man who was with Jay Humphreys when he died surrendered himself. Thanksgiving Day was observed in the usual way. Yale College was defeated by Harvard at football. Mr. Beecher gave an account of his trip through the West and South. No progress was made in unravelling the Orange murder mystery.

THE WEATHER.—Thermine local observations indicate warmer and clear or fair weather. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 36°; lowest, 25°; average, 32°.

General Rosecrans's proposed amendment to the Constitution to prohibit polygamy is entirely proper. But Congress already, if it chooses to make use of it, has sufficient power to prevent the continuance of this barbarous practice. Outside of the Territories there is no reason to believe that polygamy will ever be tolerated in this country. What is needed is a more speedy and practicable method of abolishing the evil than that proposed by General Rosecrans.

Mr. Beecher gave an interesting account yesterday of his recent Western trip. He has a high opinion of the Northwest country opened up by the Northern Pacific Railroad. There is no doubt that Oregon and Washington Territory, especially, have a bright future before them. They have abundance of fine wheat lands, timber and minerals, and a climate in many respects equal to that of California. Mr. Beecher does not exaggerate in asserting that the Northwest country has a prospect of being the greatest in the Union. But he will not find so many persons in accord with him in what he says about Utah and the Mormons.

A British manufacturer ought to have felt at home in the recent free-trade conference meeting held in this city. The correspondent who addresses us on another page did not understand the jargon that he heard there, although as a mill-owner in Lancashire he was tolerably conversant with the economic doctrines of Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright. His incisive questions to the speakers who failed to enlighten him, British manufacturer though he was, will serve to amuse the loyal friends of the American protective system. If Mr. Wells and his associates cannot convert a Lancashire factor to the comfortable gospel of peace on earth, good will to Englishmen, what success can they hope to have in working out the economic redemption of America?

If the Puritan fathers could have watched yesterday the observance of Thanksgiving Day they would hardly have recognized their offspring. The day has come to be less marked by religious devotion than in former times. But still there was a lively remembrance yesterday of our obligations as a people in that regard. Nothing is more wonderful in the history of the country than the facility with which it assimilates the varied types of manhood to our institutions. This is particularly noticeable in the observance of Thanksgiving Day. And though with the accession of millions of foreigners the character of the day in New-York has somewhat changed, it still retains much of its old character. The country has a great deal to be thankful for this year—well-filled granaries, which mean busy workshops, peace and all the elements of National prosperity and continued

success. It is well that so general a recognition was made yesterday of that fact.

The physician whose strictures on the sanitary condition of certain dairy farms have excited the indignation of the Orange County milk-producers returns to the subject this morning in a courteous and sensible letter. He disclaims any intention of charging wilful neglect on the part of the dairymen, and repeats our suggestion that if the germs of typhoid fever and other diseases are conveyed to city households by means of milk, the result must be attributed to ignorance of the general principles of drainage prevailing in town and country alike. He offers to place the evidence referred to in his first letter to THE TRIBUNE at the disposal of a dairymen's committee, provided they will unite with him in securing a thorough inspection of the sanitary condition of the dairymen of Orange County. This is a reasonable proposition. We trust it will be promptly acted upon.

The facts related in Mr. Porter's letter from Rheims, printed in to-day's TRIBUNE, are of great interest to workmen. It is shown that the average rate of wages paid in woollen factories in this country is 100 per cent greater than in any of the European countries. To abolish the duties that secure this advantage to the United States would result in a levelling of wages. That is a process that has been going on in England for years. France and Germany, with their protective tariffs, have largely increased their manufacturing industries, and benefited their work-people, at the expense of Great Britain. What is true of the woollen trade applies also to other industries. American workmen would not tamely submit to the levelling process that would be forced upon them by a change in our tariff. France has long derived an advantage from the skillful designers, chemists and dyers employed in her textile industries. Mr. Porter shows how this supremacy is maintained by aid given to technical schools. It is a lesson that ought to be made good use of in the United States.

## FREE HOMES OR FREE WHISKY.

Mr. Blaine proposes to abolish State taxes in all the States except three, and State and county taxes both in about half of the States. Such would be the startling effect of the proposition set forth with his usual directness and power in the letter published yesterday. It need not be added that such a proposal will arouse the deepest interest in every part of the country. For it is true, as Mr. Blaine says, that the State and county taxes "come upon the property" with a crushing force. The houses, the farms, the factories, the stores, the shops, all feel it "as a heavy burden." Federal taxes, being indirect, we never feel. Nobody knows when he pays them, and in practice nobody cares. But the home of every workman, the home and farm of every farmer, the factory or shop, or mill or mine in which every producer seeks a livelihood, all are oppressed by the direct taxation of the States and counties, and thereby rendered less valuable. The proposition of Mr. Blaine is to tax whiskey rather than homesteads, farms and shops. He proposes to make the taxes on liquor permanent, and to provide that the entire revenue from them shall be permanently distributed to the States and Territories in proportion to population. The revenue thus obtained is now about \$86,000,000. In the nature of things, it will grow with the growth of the country. It costs less to collect than any other tax levied by the United States or the States. But the aggregate of all State and county taxes is now only about \$52,000,000, and the change of all State and county taxes only about \$120,000,000.

The table published with Mr. Blaine's letter showed the amounts which would go to each State and Territory, in a division according to the population in 1880. The census showed the amount of taxes by the States in that year, and the revenue distributed to the States under Mr. Blaine's plan would exceed the State taxation in every State except Louisiana, Colorado, Nevada, Oregon and California. In Louisiana and Colorado, moreover, the difference is so small that the people could and certainly would cut down the expenses of their State government at once, so as to abolish all State taxes. In the three Pacific States, there would be some deficit, which, however, could readily be made up by very moderate taxes on corporations or in other modes than by direct taxes on property. Thus the plan would enable the people to abolish all State taxes at once in all the States except three, and in those States also if they wish.

But the surplus still remaining to the States would in many cases be quite large. Inspection of the census returns shows that it would be large enough to abolish all county taxes also in Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee and Vermont. Moreover, it would approximate so closely to the amount now raised by county taxation in six other States that the people, if they chose, could readily cover county as well as State expenditures with the proceeds of the liquor tax. These States are Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi and Wisconsin. The distribution of the surplus by the States among the counties would be a matter for the States to arrange, and, as the county taxes are not always proportioned to population, would be probably involve some difficulty, but it is manifest that the people could abolish county taxes altogether, if they chose, in sixteen of the States.

In the other States there would remain, after paying all the expenses of the State governments, a surplus substantially as follows: Georgia, \$523,000; Illinois, \$2,090,000; Indiana, \$967,000; Iowa, \$2,015,000; Kansas, \$860,000; Maine, \$73,500; Maryland, \$773,000; Minnesota, \$639,000; Missouri, \$1,669,000; Nebraska, \$436,000; New-Hampshire, \$210,000; New-Jersey, \$697,000; New-York, \$1,012,000; Ohio, \$1,115,000; Texas, \$596,000; Virginia, \$727,500; and West Virginia, \$509,000. These estimates are on the basis of taxation as it was in the year of census. With such sums in excess of amounts necessary for State government, the States would be pushed by public opinion everywhere to relieve land and property from all direct taxation for State and county purposes, to require the curtailment of county expenditures, and to provide the balance of revenue that may be needed after application of the surplus from the liquor tax, not by direct taxes, but by one form or another of indirect taxation. In short, the plan of Mr. Blaine would soon come to this: Abolition of State and county taxes, liquor to bear all the cost of State and county government; no tax on homes or farms, mills or shops, save such as the people in their cities and towns may impose upon themselves for local purposes.

It is not difficult to see that there are objections to this plan, which it will be time enough hereafter to consider. But it clearly avoids the gravest objections to what has been called the Pennsylvania plan, while having a much broader effect. It will enable the people to bring all their direct taxes upon property within the immediate control of the towns or cities where they live. Thus it will conduce most powerfully to economy and purity of local govern-

ment. Finally, it puts before the Nation this pregnant question: Shall we tax houses and lands in preference to whiskey; shall we abolish the tax on liquors, of which no man need pay one cent unless he chooses, or shall we abolish all direct taxes for State and county purposes? The Democrats evidently prefer the side of the liquor-dealer. The Republicans can well afford to take the side of the farmer and householder. It will be found more popular as well as wiser to tax the bar-rooms than to tax the farms and the homes.

## DANGERS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

The British Empire is encompassed with perplexities and dangers. At home, industries are much depressed, and the Irish question causes anxiety. In Egypt, an impotent shadow of a Government has suffered an army to be annihilated, though led by British officers, and reinforcements on land and sea are being hurriedly gathered to arrest the progress of El Mahdi, because his success may involve a general uprising of Mahometans with incalculable consequences in the Ottoman Empire, and, worst of all, in India. Finally, a few shots fired in far-off Tonquin cause men to work day and night in English navy-yards and arsenals, that a force sufficient to defend British interests may be sent to Chinese waters without delay, because war between France and China menaces British trade in opium and cotton goods, and so threatens the finances of the Empire of India and the prosperity of a manufacture in which 600,000 British operatives are employed. Curious complications arise from the contradictory relations of France and England toward the Mahometans and the Chinese. France has much reason to dread a Mahometan outbreak in Northwest Africa, and is as anxious as England to see the False Prophet suppressed. But England cannot now tolerate French participation in Egyptian affairs, and British capital jealously rejects all the proposals of M. de Lesseps for the cutting of a new Suez canal. Great Britain cannot afford to have the war with China go on, and has already informed the French Government that any blockade of Chinese ports would be attended with the most serious consequences.

England has had difficulties, foreign and domestic, at almost any time in the past century, and never, since the surrender of its American colonies, has it been compelled to face another serious loss. The good old blood, after all, never shows its power quite clearly except in serious emergencies. The very fact that English interests are threatened at one time in China, India, Egypt, and Ireland shows how the world has changed since British troops evacuated New-York. Colonies in Australia already have a population as large as that of the American Colonies a century ago, with a greater area of territory than the United States has now. The Dominion of Canada already has a population about equal to that of the thirteen colonies when they declared their independence. In India the subjects of the British crown now number about 200,000,000. Southern Africa, and Egypt, have now become British territory in effect, if not in name, and concern British commercial interests so closely that even on the Nile the presence of a British army is found necessary. The same energy and courage which have made the morning drum-beat of British garrisons attend the sunrise in its circuit around the globe will be applied to overcome the difficulties which now appear.

## THE CHAIN-GANG SENATORS.

When the Senate meets next week, the State of Georgia will be represented by two chain-gang Senators. Senator Brown has already said in that body for several years, but the chain-gang representation of the State will not be complete until ex-Governor Colquitt takes his seat at the opening of the new Congress. We call them chain-gang Senators, because, if we are not mistaken, they have owed considerable of their influence to their interest in the chain-gang contracts with the State, and also have been indebted, in obtaining these contracts, somewhat to their political influence. The circumstance that men of such standing will make money out of a system far more barbarous and cruel than slavery was, except perhaps, in some of its worst forms, is so extraordinary that it deserves public notice. It is in no personal hostility that we direct attention to these men, but because their share in the chain-gang system seems to be an open one. Senator Brown is largely interested in a coal company which has a contract calling for "three hundred able-bodied long-term convicts" until the year 1899. Senator Colquitt was recently associated with Senator Gordon in one of these contracts; whether he is at this moment openly interested in one is not a very important question, in view of the fact that he probably still gives the system his approval.

Readers of THE TRIBUNE know something about the Georgia chain-gang. Mr. George W. Cable, who certainly cannot be accused of an anti-Southern bias, made a scathing denunciation of the abuses of the lease system before the Louisville Charities Conference some weeks ago. A correspondent in Georgia writes us a letter, printed on another page, which gives some additional facts regarding the workings of the system in that State. The agitation of the subject seems to be rising. We hope to see it continue until this criminal method of governing criminals is discarded. It is a reproach to the civilization in which all Americans have a share. At all events, we hope soon to see the day when Georgia Senators will be ashamed to lease convicts, when Georgia will be ashamed to elect convict-lease Senators.

## THE "EXPANSION" OF NEWS.

In the trial of the case of the Central News Company (London) vs. Judy it has been admitted that the news company was in the habit of what it emphatically calls "expansion" cable dispatches. In this way cable dispatches from fifteen to thirty words were so padded as to become a column or two. Of necessity this process involves the evolution of considerable conclusions from small indications. The cable dispatches gave often no more than hints. The able editors built up elaborate editions of statement upon these outlines. It is to be expected that the revelation of this system of "expansion" will render the public somewhat sceptical concerning foreign dispatches, especially when they are so full and detailed. The candid editor of the Central News Company in the course of his testimony observed that sometimes they would send a dispatch of thirty words to the United States, and the American editors would "make two columns of it." We do not know whether such a practice of "expansion" really exists in any of the offices of our contemporaries. Perhaps it might be looked for most naturally in those journals which affect to publish special cable news in the most profuse and abundant way. With THE TRIBUNE certainly, and we believe with most American journals, condensation is a far more important consideration than anything else, and "expansion" would be impossible for want of room wherein to expand. But apart from the question of fact, it is somewhat interesting to reflect that the practice of "expansion" is one which mankind have adopt-

ed in many lines of research, and that science and religion alike owe a good deal to it. The human mind has never been able to rest satisfied with fragmentary phenomena. It must fulfill the law of its organism by proceeding to group, to classify, to define, to deduce, to infer, to conclude. And it is surprising how small a fulcrum is really needed to move the world. Just as Professor Owen, from one little osseous fragment, reconstructed the huge bulk of the megatherium, so human speculation, ever pushing ahead of facts, builds upon the most insignificant fragments of antiquity, or of cosmical science, or of psychological discovery, all-comprehensive and stupendous systems of history, or cosmogony, or theology, or philosophy. All knowledge is relative, say the philosophers. But the relativity of human knowledge is as a rule ignored outside of the text-books, and the most sweeping conclusions are jumped at in the most reckless way, even sometimes by those who boast of the rigidly scientific methods of their inquiry. The "expansion" of news, that is to say, of the latest discoveries of science, of the latest hieroglyphic inscriptions, of the latest philological theories, of the latest ethnological speculations, is indeed by no means confined to the Central News Company of London. The investigator of folk-lore traces in the simplest nursery tales the remnants of sun-myths. The archaeologist infers from the presence of certain monuments, whose significance he is not sure of, the evidence of "cults" which may be altogether the figments of his own fancy. The theologian, starting with assumptions which may be without foundation, erects lofty structures reaching to the skies. The historian, beginning with a mixture of legend and tradition which it is no longer possible to disentangle, elaborates speculations concerning the progress of races which may be entirely erroneous. Even the scientist is compelled frequently to formulate "laws" concerning which he can have no assurance, and to infer from demonstrated facts conclusions which are quite possibly not justified. The astronomer, watching the heavens, seizes upon the suggestions of the spectroscopic to help him in constructing a solar theory, yet with all his ingenuity he can tell us nothing concerning the central luminary which possesses the least element of certitude. Professor Proctor has been a notable "expander" of news in this connection. Professor Piazzi Smyth went off in another direction, and from a supposed mathematical coincidence inferred a use and significance for the first Pyramid which no ascertained facts at all warrant.

And so the "expansion" of news of one kind and another is ever has been the common practice of mankind, and perhaps, as already suggested, it is a necessity of the human mind. To remain content with uncertainties, fragments, outlines, is intolerable to man. He must make believe to know something final in regard to whatever comes within his ken. He must pretend to himself to have fathomed the Unknowable. He must solace himself with delusions, rather than confess his ignorance and bewilderment. And therefore he is driven, almost through the force of circumstances, and the influence of his surroundings, to resort, at all times and seasons, to the "expansion" of news.

## A PERMANENT MARINE HOSPITAL.

The Chamber of Commerce and Maritime Exchange recently called the attention of the President to the absolute necessity for a permanent marine hospital at this port. The Marine Hospital Service is supported by the monthly fees collected from the sailors, and is under the supervision of the Treasury Department. New-York being the largest seaport in this country, and the third or fourth great port of the world, it would be natural to expect that she would have a large and thoroughly equipped marine hospital service. Nearly all of our large ports and many of the small ones have commodious and well-appointed Government hospitals; but New-York, where the largest amount of marine-hospital fees is collected, and where the largest number of sick sailors receive attendance, has no such permanent hospital. Prior to 1879 the sick sailors who had paid their monthly hospital fees were sent to the various city hospitals, and the Marine Hospital Service paid the bills. This method, being found expensive, Congress, in 1879, gave permission to the Marine Hospital Service to occupy Fort Wood, on Bedloe's Island, until such time as the island should be needed for the Bartholdi statue. This temporary occupancy was terminated a few months ago, and the Seamen's Retreat, on Staten Island, was leased by the Government for two years at a yearly rental of \$6,500, with the privilege of purchasing it at any time, such time as the island should be needed for the Bartholdi statue. This temporary occupancy was terminated a few months ago, and the Seamen's Retreat, on Staten Island, was leased by the Government for two years at a yearly rental of \$6,500, with the privilege of purchasing it at any time, such time as the island should be needed for the Bartholdi statue.

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## THE PHYLLOXERA AND FRENCH WINES.

Late advices are to the effect that the phylloxera continues to ravage the vineyards of France, and that the Bordeaux vineyards of this year will be poorer than ever before. The destruction caused by the phylloxera has now been proceeding for several years, and all trustworthy accounts agree in affirming that the production of sound wines has been diminished from 50 to 65 per cent. But in the face of these facts the exportation of wine from French ports has not only not fallen off, but has actually increased, and there is no more difficulty in procuring what purports to be French claret, of well-known brands, than there was ten or fifteen years ago. Whoever desires to solve this mystery can, however, find the means of doing so without much trouble. It has been ascertained that for several years the importation of Spanish and Greek wines of low grade to France has been increasing, and that large quantities of California wine also find their way there. Official researches have shown that the practice of "doctoring" French wines has been so generally adopted that it has become difficult to procure any unadulterated wine in that country. The low-grade wines of Spain and Greece and California are in fact notoriously prepared for the foreign market by various methods of mixture and adulteration, and then they are shipped for the benefit of the simple folk who would rather pay a high price for the privilege of imagining that they are drinking French wine than secure a pure, sound, native wine at a low rate.

But all the fraud is not practised in France. A great deal of California wine is shipped to the Eastern States, which does not find consumption as California wine. There is even ground for believing that much of this wine finds its way into the cellars of hotels and restaurants, whence it reappears in bottles with foreign labels upon them, the said labels affording excuse for the exaction of foreign prices. It has often been alleged that none of the California wine was drinkable, but perhaps few who assert this are aware that it has for some time been consumed in considerable quantities, under a foreign disguise. And since there is no room for doubt as to the main facts here stated; since it is perfectly certain that the French vineyards are today incapable of supplying as much as 50 per cent of the current exportation of alleged French wines; since there is no longer any secret as to the method

by which the ravages of the phylloxera have been repaired; there is little excuse for the general adherence to a class of wines which are no longer at all what they purport to be. The truth is that while the French vineyards are constantly becoming worse, the California vineyards are as constantly becoming better. And what is now principally required for the further improvement of these distinctively American, and unquestionably pure, wines, is the public recognition of their good qualities. Of course so long as people will accept spurious wines, and are content to be deceived and made to pay double their value at the same time, dealers and others will continue to sell doctored brands under fictitious titles. But it rests with the consumers to protect themselves by demanding the pure wines under their own names, and if this were done, thousands would soon realize that it is possible to procure better vintages than three-fourths of the alleged French ones, at less than two-thirds or even half the cost of the latter. If this experiment were made, moreover, it would undoubtedly have the effect of inciting the California wine-growers to greater efforts, and would hasten the perfection of wines which have already made really astonishing advances when we consider the obstacles and prejudices against which they have had to contend.

It was a laborious piece of vivacity in THE World the other day to call a distinguished New-York statesman "Mr. Coq." How are the readers of that paper to know whether the dispatch in which this name occurred was written in the spirit of compliment or of sarcasm? The French disguise may cover an allusion—a somewhat awkward one, we confess—to the mercurial disposition, the taste for light and pleasant things, and the habit of skipping and dancing over the rough places of life, for which "Mr. Coq" is celebrated; or it may mean that he is merely a trifle. Upon the whole we are inclined to interpret the oracular utterance as a hint that the candidate—

"Cock of the hearth, so wildly shy—"  
has been crowing much too early in the morning.

Governor Pattison, of Pennsylvania, is in what might be called a bad fix. He forced the Legislature the other day to call a distinguished New-York statesman "Mr. Coq." How are the readers of that paper to know whether the dispatch in which this name occurred was written in the spirit of compliment or of sarcasm? The French disguise may cover an allusion—a somewhat awkward one, we confess—to the mercurial disposition, the taste for light and pleasant things, and the habit of skipping and dancing over the rough places of life, for which "Mr. Coq" is celebrated; or it may mean that he is merely a trifle. Upon the whole we are inclined to interpret the oracular utterance as a hint that the candidate—

According to the last quarterly report of the Police Department five witnesses were imprisoned in the House of Detention on October 1. The change made in the statute last winter was designed to sweep away this abuse; and in a great measure, such has been the result. During the third quarter of 1892 there were 104 witnesses imprisoned in the House of Detention, for an aggregate of 1,336 days, at a cost to the city, for meals alone, of \$1,202. During the corresponding time in 1893 there were nineteen witnesses imprisoned for an aggregate of 304 days, and at a cost for meals of \$274. Another interesting feature in the same quarterly report is the large increase shown in the payments for the last time to members of the police force. For the six months ending September 30, 1892, the amount paid for "sick time lost" was \$20,101. During the corresponding period of this year the payments for the same purpose were \$36,665, an increase of \$16,564. The increase, no doubt, was largely due to a decision in the courts in regard to lost time; though it is not to the credit of the police force that the percentage of sick to full time increased from 6.24 to 7.14. It looks as though the health of the police force was not so good after the members learned that they could collect full pay for lost time. The police are either more vigilant—which we fear there is no good reason to believe—or else crime in the city is on the increase. A comparison of the arrests made shows an increase of 2,181 for the last six months over the corresponding period in 1892. The large proportion of the arrests were made in the crowded tenement districts. Nearly one-third of the entire number of persons arrested were born in Ireland, and only one-eighth in Germany. The ability to read and write would appear to have small influence in keeping people out of the hands of the police, as the report states that 96 per cent of the persons arrested could read and write. The training derived in a work-shop apparently has much more to do with the question, as 75 per cent of the persons arrested were without any such training.

There is food for reflection to people who live in comfortable homes in the fact that an average of over 6,000 lodgers are furnished in police station-houses every month to indigent persons; and that there are nearly three times as many women as men who avail themselves of that privilege.

One good result of the Civil Service law ought to be felt by the members of Congress at this session. They should be relieved from the pressure of applicants for office. It is well understood throughout the country that the Republican administration is faithfully enforcing the law. That shuts out all hope of members obtaining places in the departments for their friends. The relief ought to be of great service to the Congressmen in giving them more time to attend to the duties of the session. It will no doubt be a greater relief to the department heads and an advantage to the public business. Civil Service reform is becoming more popular every day, but it appears to be a plant of slow growth in the Mayor's office in this city.

At many of the polling booths in this city on election day no tickets against the proposition to abolish contract labor in the prisons could be obtained. But the Board of Aldermen took good care that tickets for the proposition were to be had, having ordered 2,000,000 of such ballots to be printed for distribution on election day. Yet there were only 112,700 votes cast for the proposition. The Aldermen have now sent in a request to the Board of Estimate to appropriate nearly \$1,000 to pay for printing and circulating these tickets. The Board of Estimate has no authority under the law to make such an appropriation. It would be an outrage on the taxpayers who are opposed to the change to use their money in such a way. If the Aldermen had ordered tickets for and against the proposition to be printed, there might have been some equity in their claim for an appropriation, but that they should use the money to pay for tickets for one side only, and not for the other, and now seek to use the money of the people, to give expression to one side only of the question, it will be interesting to note the action of the Board of Estimate on this subject.

The growing popularity of the pooling arrangement among railroad managers is shown in the organization of a Transcontinental Pool Association. All the roads that form parts of routes between the Mississippi and the Pacific Ocean will be controlled by this organization, and George W. Ristine has accepted the position of commissioner. The importance of this arrangement, not only to the new lines that are just beginning to seek traffic, but to the older roads that might otherwise be involved in ruinous competition, will hardly be over-estimated. It is not claimed by advocates of the system that it prevents competition altogether, or secures entire harmony between rival roads; contests are frequent and charges of bad faith are often made. But it does appear that competition is regulated and made less reckless, and that ruinous wars without adequate occasion are to a great extent prevented. The tendency now is to embrace nearly all the important lines in the country within one or another of eight or ten great pools, which, if they hold together, will give to rates a steadiness not hitherto realized.

But it is yet to be proved how far the new system will promote or protect the public interest.

## PERSONAL.

The citizens of Easton, Penn., propose to give a public reception to the Hon. Franklin B. Gowen on some day in the near future.

The Rev. Dr. John Hall, of this city will deliver the first of a course of popular lectures in the First Presbyterian Church, Hartford, Conn., on the evening of December 1.

John G. Whittier called on Mr. G. W. Cable in Boston last Tuesday, and it was at that meeting of the two authors, "I was reading all the stories," said the venerable poet to the novelist, "and I like them very much. There has found an introduction field of romance in New-Orleans, and I think that the writer whom we have so long waited to see come up in the South."

It was a Lily. Its condition was one of "next morning" languor. Its abiding-place was the bathroom of his coat. Exclaimed a lady: "Oh, Mr. Wilde! If you must wear a Lily, why don't you have one that isn't faded?" Then said the humorist: "The humorist of the hour is suffering. 'Ah, no! Don't please don't call it faded. Precious thing! It is Only Rather Tired!'"

Captain F. W. Dawson, Editor of THE Charleston News and Courier, who has just been knighted by the Pope in recognition of his opposition to duelling, is an Englishman by birth. The distinction conferred upon him is largely due to the efforts of the late and present Roman Catholic Bishops of South-West, England, who, learning of what he had done to break up the "code of honor," had petitioned the Pope to grant him some distinguishing mark of approval.

THE Philadelphia Press states that a grandson of John Edgar Howard, of Baltimore, and bearing the honored name, was recently discharged from the humble position of turnkey at the penitentiary, within sight of the home of his ancestors. Another grandson sought in vain the position of private secretary to the Mayor. They have a double claim to the gratitude of Baltimore, for they are also grandsons of Francis Pickens, the author of the "Star Spangled Banner."

The Salvation Army of Canada is very much encouraged by the aid and comfort extended to them by the Rev. Dr. Wilson, of St. George's Cathedral, Kingston. He went the other night to a love feast of the army, and stayed till 4 o'clock in the morning, passing the broad around to those who desired it. The Anglican clergy are much scandalized, and Dr. Wilson has been given a three months' leave of absence. Sir John McDonald, the Canadian premier, has also testified his interest in the cause, the Salvation Army by subscribing \$25 to the cause.

The Barlow Monument Committee, of Paris, is arranging for the benefit of its fund, a series of concerts. By the tickets for the concerts subscribers are entitled to lottery tickets, with chances of obtaining a painting representing the scene which passed between Barlow and Paganini on December 16, 1838. Barlow had given his "Symphonie Fantastique" and "Harold" in them that on the occasion he gave to the audience before the composer, and in the face of the whole audience kissed his hands. The day after he sent Barlow 20,000 francs.

When Senator Beck visited his old home in Scotland in 1875, while strolling through the fields he met an old schoolmate. "You don't remember me, Donald?" he said to him. "No," said Donald, "I don't know your face. But I caught a six-pound salmon to-day in the fifth, and whenever I have done that before, something has happened. I don't know you by sight, but you're either John McPherson, who left us thirty years ago, or you're Jim Beck. Now, which is it?" "Sure enough," cried the Senator, "it's Jim Beck." "Well, Jimmie, tell me that the old friends are going to be together to the House of Peers. Is it?" "Come along home then and we'll eat the fish. An American lord is good enough for a Scotch salmon."

The Hon. S. J. Randall's home near Berwyn, Penn., is about four miles from the railroad station. "The way to it" writes a Boston Herald correspondent, "lies over a good country road, and through farm scenes such as are only found in the Chester Valley, the home of the Quakers, thrift, energy and wealth. To go to it by rail calls for courage, and a hired boy drives up a rickety old carriage drawn by a horse almost as dilapidated as the wagon. As he starts out, it is an even bet any day that the vehicle doesn't hold together until it gets home. I suppose the money value of the whole affair would foot up \$200. Mr. Randall's home is as unpretentious as the man who owns it, a quiet, country-house, surrounded by a few fertile acres, in the care of which the prospective Speaker of the next Congress spends much of his time. I believe Mr. Randall never had a home in the city; certainly he has not for many years past. He occasionally leaves the city to visit his old home, or to the city, where his district lies, but after he went to Congress, he could rarely be found there. For many years he has had an office on the Albany-st., and he has been a politician, a lawyer or a doctor, drives his trade. His political office, therefore, is his claim to a residence in the district, which he has represented in Congress for nearly twenty years."

## GENERAL NOTES.

The Northwest Seal Lighthouse on the Pacific coast is to be rebuilt. It will be built entirely of granite blocks and iron, and will be protected by a granite pier.